



## Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

# News

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### ***West Virginia Law Adventure* mock trials scheduled** **For immediate release Thursday, December 31, 2009**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Middle schools around West Virginia next month will perform mock trial transcripts they wrote themselves as part of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia's *West Virginia Law Adventure* program.

Unlike other mock trial programs in which students perform cases using scripts or materials prepared by adults, in *West Virginia Law Adventure* each class was asked to write its own script based on one of three criminal case scenarios in the rules book.

Students are to mail their written transcripts to the West Virginia State Bar by March 1, 2010. The Bar's Young Lawyers Section will choose winners, and the winners will be invited to perform their mock trials at the Supreme Court on April 29. Students' trips to the Supreme Court will be paid for by a grant from the West Virginia Bar Foundation.

Before mailing in their transcripts, participating West Virginia classes must perform their trials at a courthouse in front of a judicial officer. The trips to the courthouses also are paid for with the grant from the West Virginia Bar Foundation.

The participating schools, the dates and locations they will perform their scripts will be:

- Nuttall Middle School in Fayette County, 10 a.m. January 7 at the Fayette County Courthouse in Fayetteville, before Twelfth Circuit Judge John W. Hatcher, Jr.
- Stonewall Jackson Middle School, 10 a.m. January 10 at the Kanawha County Judicial Annex in Charleston, before Thirteenth Circuit Judge Duke Bloom.
- Keyser Middle School in Mineral County, 1 p.m. January 14 at the Mineral County Courthouse, before Twenty-First Circuit Judge Philip B. Jordan.
- Belington Middle School in Barbour County, 10 a.m. January 19 at the Barbour County Courthouse in Philippi, before Magistrate Kathi S. McBee.
- Bluefield Middle School in Mercer County (two classes), 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. January 20 at the Mercer County Courthouse in Princeton, before Ninth Circuit Judge Omar Aboulhosn.
- Ritchie County Middle School, 9 a.m. January 22 at the Ritchie County Courthouse in Harrisville, before Magistrate Teresa C. Harper.

- Princeton Middle School in Mercer County, 10 a.m. January 22 at the Mercer County Courthouse in Princeton, before Judge Aboulhosn.
- Horace Mann Middle School in Kanawha County, 10 a.m. January 22 at the Kanawha County Judicial Annex in Charleston, before Thirteenth Circuit Judge Tod Kaufman.

*West Virginia Law Adventure* is adapted with permission from the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's original, award-winning *Law Adventure Competition and Programs* for grades seven and eight. For more information about the New Jersey State Bar Foundation, visit [www.njsbf.org](http://www.njsbf.org).